

## §51.1575

Inches	Millimeters (mm)
4½ equals .....	114.3
Ounces	Grams
1 equals .....	28.35
4 equals .....	113.40
5 equals .....	141.75
6 equals .....	170.10
7 equals .....	198.45
8 equals .....	226.80
9 equals .....	255.15
10 equals .....	283.50
12 equals .....	340.20
14 equals .....	396.90
16 equals .....	453.60
18 equals .....	510.30
19 equals .....	538.60
20 equals .....	567.00

### Subpart—United States Consumer Standards for Potatoes

SOURCE: 18 FR 7132, Nov. 11, 1953, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 42 FR 32514, June 27, 1977, and further redesignated at 46 FR 63203, Dec. 31, 1981.

#### GRADES

### §51.1575 U.S. Grade A Small; U.S. Grade A Medium; U.S. Grade A Medium to Large; U.S. Grade A Large.

Potatoes of each of these grades shall be of one variety or similar varietal characteristics which are fairly well shaped, fairly clean, free from freezing injury, blackheart, late blight, and soft rot or wet breakdown, and from damage caused by sunburn, second growth, growth cracks, air cracks, hollowheart, internal discoloration, cuts, shriveling, sprouting, scab, dry rot, rhizoctonia, other diseases, wireworm, other insects, or mechanical or other means. Potatoes of these grades shall also be mature: *Provided*, That potatoes which are not mature and the outer skin loosens or “feathers” readily under the usual handling practices need not meet this requirement if they are firm and are further designated as “Early” in connection with the grade, as for example “U.S. Grade A Medium-Early.” Potatoes on the shown face shall be reasonably representative in size and quality of the contents of the containers. (See §51.1577.)

(a) *Tolerances.* Incident to proper grading and handling, except for the

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tolerances for size, not more than a total of 5 percent, by weight, of the potatoes in any lot may fail to meet the requirements of the grade, including not more than 1 percent for potatoes affected by soft rot or wet breakdown. (See §51.1579.)

### §51.1576 U.S. Grade B Small; U.S. Grade B Medium; U.S. Grade B Medium to Large; U.S. Grade B Large.

Potatoes of each of these grades shall meet the requirements for U.S. Grade A Small; U.S. Grade A Medium; U.S. Grade A Medium to Large; and U.S. Grade A Large, except for the increased tolerance for defects specified below. (See §51.1577.)

(a) *Tolerances.* Incident to proper grading and handling, except for the tolerance for size, not more than a total of 20 percent, by weight, of the potatoes in any lot may fail to meet the requirements of the grade, but not more than 5 percent shall be allowed for potatoes which are seriously damaged by any cause, including not more than 1 percent for potatoes affected by soft rot or wet breakdown. (See §51.1579.)

#### SIZE

### §51.1577 Size range requirements.

In addition to the quality requirements specified for the above grades, potatoes shall also meet the requirements for minimum and maximum diameter or weight, and the tolerances as specified for the various grades in the table appearing in this section. Potatoes specified as meeting one of the grades may be of any size within its size range requirements, except that it is not permissible to specify a lot as “U.S. Grade A Medium to Large,” or “U.S. Grade B Medium to Large,” unless more than 15 percent, by weight, of the potatoes are larger than the maximum size required for U.S. Grade A Medium, or U.S. Grade B Medium, respectively. For example, a lot of round or intermediate-shaped potatoes to be specified as “U.S. Grade A Medium to Large” must have more than 15 percent, by weight, of potatoes from 3 to 4 inches in diameter.

Grades	Size range requirements, round or intermediate shaped varieties		Size range requirements, long varieties		Tolerance for size	
	Minimum diameter (Inches)	Maximum diameter (Inches)	Minimum diam. or wt.	Maximum weight (Ounces)	Under-size (Percent)	Over-size (Percent)
U.S. Grades A & B small .....	1½	2¼	1½ inches	4	3	15
U.S. Grades A & B medium .....	2¼	3	4 ounces	10	5	15
U.S. Grades A & B medium to large .....	2¼	4	4 ounces	16	5	15
U.S. Grades A & B large .....	3	4	10 ounces	16	5	15

## OFF-GRADE

**§ 51.1578 Off-Grade potatoes.**

Potatoes which fail to meet the requirements of any of the foregoing grades shall be Off-Grade potatoes.

## APPLICATION OF TOLERANCES

**§ 51.1579 Application of tolerances to individual containers.**

(a) Based on sample inspection, the contents of individual containers in the lot are subject to the following limitations: *Provided*, That the averages for the entire lot are within the tolerances specified for the grade:

(1) When a tolerance is 10 percent or more, not more than one-tenth of the individual containers in any lot may contain more than one and one-half times the tolerance specified, except that at least one defective and one off-sized specimen may be permitted in a container.

(2) When a tolerance is less than 10 percent, not more than one-tenth of the individual containers in any lot may contain more than double the tolerance specified, but no package may contain more than four times the tolerance for soft rot or wet breakdown, except that at least one defective and one off-sized specimen may be permitted in a container.

## DEFINITIONS

**§ 51.1580 Fairly well shaped.**

*Fairly well shaped* means that the appearance of the individual potato or the general appearance of the potatoes in the container is not materially injured by pointed, dumbbell-shaped or otherwise ill-formed potatoes.

**§ 51.1581 Fairly clean.**

*Fairly clean* means that from the viewpoint of general appearance, the potatoes in the container are reasonably free from dirt or other foreign matter, and that individual potatoes are not materially caked with dirt or materially stained.

**§ 51.1582 Soft rot or wet breakdown.**

*Soft rot or wet breakdown* means any soft, mushy, or leaky condition of the tissue such as slimy soft rot, leak, or wet breakdown following freezing injury, scald, or other injury.

**§ 51.1583 Damage.**

*Damage* means any injury or defect which materially injures the edible or shipping quality, or the appearance of the individual potato or the general appearance of the potatoes in the container, or which cannot be removed without a loss of more than 5 percent of the total weight of the potato including peel covering defective area. Loss of outer skin (epidermis) shall not be considered as damage when the potatoes are designated as "Early" unless the skinned surface is materially affected by dark discoloration. Any one of the following defects, or any combination of defects, the seriousness of which exceeds the maximum allowed for any one defect, shall be considered as damage:

(a) Second growth or growth cracks which have developed to such an extent as to materially injure the appearance of the individual potato or the general appearance of the potatoes in the container.